

JOTTINGS AND CLIPPINGS.

You can't draw blood from a stone, but you can stone a stone. It's a long time that has no turn, but it sometimes runs up against a fence.

The London Times is grumbling at the lack of public parks in the great English metropolis.

"Do you go to the Adirondacks this summer, my buck?" "No, no, I've another row to hoe."

A rat poison is advertised that will make rats go away to a neighbor's house and die. It fills a long bill.

The Derick tells of an old City man who has to turn his toes in. If he didn't they would hit the sides of the streets.

One of Barnum's Zeplins has run away from the show. Show this to your wife if she wishes to venture out on a picnic.

An Irish gentleman, speaking of the scarcity of feed in Utah, says that thousands of cattle have had to be killed to save their lives.

"Water always seeks its level," and if there is too much whisky in it, it makes a level of its level, too.—*Norfolk Herald.*

A new shade for silk is called "lemonade color," whatever that may mean—a heavy watered silk.

Among the assets of a grocer who failed in business in a Wisconsin town is put down: "One liver-pat, worn six weeks—worth fifty cents."

Birds begin their morning concert shortly after 3 o'clock, and it is only the early riser that can have the full benefit of their sweet songs.

We can't see why prize fights are so very bad. The two principals get what they deserve, and more or less before are crippled or killed.

These men who pack the little boxes of figs have wonderful memories. They never forget to put the wormy fruit at the bottom of the box.

DAVID DAVIS is not the sort of a man to stay on the fence long.—*New Orleans Picayune.* That's so. No fence can stand it over half an hour.

Dr. Quaker's kerosene can cure you of diphtheria, but before you try it, consider which is preferable, drinking kerosene or having the diphtheria.

When a Kentucky paragon writes a word that the printer can't make out, the latter sets it up as "mules," and nine times out of ten he gets it right.—*Boston Post.*

BUSINESS MEN frequently advertise for "a boy to run errands." The way boys crawl to and from the postoffice indicates that the boy expected to run has never been found.

The law against concealed weapons does not apply to bicycles. They are revolvers, but they avoid cartridges, and never go off of themselves.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

REGINALD BOND is the name of an aristocratic Boston banker. He writes his name Reg. Bond "for short," and irreverent persons call him Registered Bond—but not to his face.

NEW YORK is accused of paying more for tobacco than London, but the Queen is always chewing bread, and he certainly cannot smoke it, unless he is a baker.—*Commercial Advertiser.*

The venerable Peter Cooper has been in the habit of sitting on the air for so long a time that it will be perfectly natural when it comes time for him to be an angel.—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

A WHATSIT manufacturer of Connecticut having built an elegant mansion, and wishing to take a second wife, said to his architect: "Which agrees best with brick and brown stone, brunette or blonde?"

It has been discovered that phantoms frangula is a good substitute for rhubarb cathartics, and only costs half as much. Then of course it will probably supply the place of the other to a considerable extent.—*Park's Sun.*

An eminent Boston preacher once said that it was a mockery to pray at night for sweet and refreshing sleep, without seeing to it that the bed-room is well ventilated. God takes care of those who take care of themselves.

Mrs. GEORGE ELIZABETH COOPER will reside in Cheyne Walk, Chelsea. The marriage of the eminent authoress has caused a great deal of bad feeling among her friends, who seem to know more about her business than she does herself.

Every one's familiar with the word flush, as applied to the crimsoned cheeks, when the minute capillaries, before invisible, become suddenly gorged with blood. The sudden full inflow is the leading idea.

The word has for a long time been applied to the cleansing of sewers by a copious amount of water suddenly let into them, and which stirs up the foul contents and bears them before it in its rush.

This method of cleaning the sink and soil-pipes of our dwellings should be systematically and thoroughly employed. An ordinary stream will flow over the sediment, and allow it to accumulate so as, in time, to fill, and always to be sending back its odor to the house.

The difficulty is increased in our sink-pipes by the carelessness of servants in allowing peelings, parings, and bits generally, to enter the pipe, and by the many greasy particles which constantly pass down.

It is well, once or twice a week, to remove the sludge, and having filled a bucket with boiling water, to pour the latter into the sink at once, at the same time opening the faucet to the boiler, and allowing the whole to run two or three minutes. This will dissolve the greasy particles, and carry everything off, and render the pipe clean and sweet.

The word, of late, has been happily applied to the proper airing of a room by opening the door and the windows in the front and rear, so as to secure, as far as possible, a full rush of the air through.

This is the more necessary, since the most dangerous impurity—the effluvia from the skin—is not, like the gases, subject to the law of diffusion, but tends to settle upon the floor, furniture and bedclothes.

A more opening of a window, however long, amounts to but little beyond cooling the room.

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TOPICS FOR THE FARM.

Receding.—Some progressive farmers believe that it is quite as important to improve and recede the pasture as the mowing lands.

The Honey Trade.—The proposition to put an import duty on honey in France has failed. That leaves that market open to us, as heretofore.

The World's Backbone.—Trade increases the wealth and glory of a country, but the real strength and stamina that is looked for among the cultivators of the soil.—*Lord Chatham.*

Corn Culture.—A writer in the *West* Rural argues at length in favor of shallow and level culture for corn, and claims that weeds are thus more effectively destroyed and a better and larger crop secured.

Apples.—The Wisconsin Horticultural Society adopted a list of six varieties of apples, hardiness being only test. These were Duchess of Odenburg, Wealthy, Tetofsky, Haas, Fameuse and Plumbo Cider.

A Prolific Mule.—A mule now in the Jardin d'Acclimatation in Paris has brought forth no fewer than six foals—some by zebras, some by asses, and some by stallions. This fertility in a hybrid is more than remarkable.

Compost Heaps.—Try making a compost heap this year. Use the refuse vegetable matter and whatever else you can. Pile it in a heap, and so as to assist fermentation, and the result will be a valuable lot of fertilizing material.

Oil for Vermis.—Vermis do not like the smell of cedar and generally keep away from it. Oil is death to them; but do not put too much oil on a mother hen, for it will kill the chickens that brood under her, as well as kill the vermin.

The Mole.—The French Minister of Agriculture says no trace of food of vegetable growth is found in the stomach of the mole, and that it is continually destroying grubs, larva, palm worms and other insects injurious to the farmer.

Partisan Strife.—Just as long as the farmers can be kept divided by sectional and partisan strife, and blinded to the real issues upon which depend their own and their children's welfare, so long will they bear burdens not their own, and remain powerless to defend the right.

To Destroy Snails.—At the last meeting of the California State Horticultural Society, Mr. Dwinelle said that snails were very destructive to pansies, but that they could be exterminated by sprinkling quicklime or gypsum on the ground around the plants.

Proper Feeding.—Feed horses according to their age and the work required of them. Full feeding and little work disorders the digestive organs. Select only such hay as is the best quality, as that of inferior quality is dear at any price, as there is no per. per nourishment in it.

The Corn Contest.—The State of Vermont has made a similar offer to that made by Maine for the best ear of corn to be grown by a boy, not over seventeen years of age. The English States are going to show what is the best they can do in growing our great Western staple.

Slanting-Tooth Harrows.—The slanting-tooth harrow has proved an important laborer in the corn departments of farming. The round, smooth teeth slanting backward at an angle of forty degrees freely clear all obstructions, do not clog, pulverize manure, harrow weeds and destroy the small weeds in corn drills.

Profits of Breeding.—Thousands of farmers who now waste their capital, time and labor in the culture of crops that do not pay expenses, on account of the markets being overstocked, could much more advantageously turn their attention to the breeding of horses, horned cattle, sheep and swine, not merely for the European markets, but for the home demand also.

Sweet Herbs.—A few sweet herbs should have a place in every garden. Every cook and housekeeper knows the value of the little patch of herbs on which she makes such daily drafts in summer, and which furnishes her with a nice collection for winter seasoning, without which the Thanksgiving turkey would lose all flavor, while strong kinds are excellent as medicine.

Rainy Harvest.—Not many years ago three-fourths of the wheat was raised by the rains, after it had been cut and put in the shock. Such wet harvests are not common but they are liable to occur every year, and it is the part of prudence to provide against them. Brown sheathing, coated with lard and linseed oil, a yard and a half, costing about twenty-five cents to each shock, would afford ample protection, and in case of a rainy harvest a few bolts of it would be a very profitable investment.—*Indiana Farmer.*

To Use London Purple on Potato Vines.—The best method is with water. Mix the London Purple into a smooth paste, and then add water in the proportion of three gallons to each ounce, or forty-eight gallons to one pound. Stir well, and apply by sprinkling with a whisk or fine watering pot, taking care not to deluge the plants, but only cover with a fine spray. If preferred, it may be used dry in the proportion of six pounds of plaster to one ounce of London Purple, or one hundred pounds of plaster to one pound of London Purple. Mix well by passing the two materials through a sieve. The more perfectly this is done the more certain the effect.

Uses of Soot in the Garden.—Soot is valuable for the ammonia which it contains, and also for its power of resorbent ammonia. The crocodile is contains as valuable as an insect destroyer, and as a fertilizer of all garden crops. If the soil is dry, a little common household salt may be mixed with soot. Lime and soot should never be mixed together; lime destroys the ammonia. Soot that has been steeped in water for two or three days is as good a fertilizer as horse-hoof parings for house-plants, and increases the vividness of the bloom of flowers in the open air. Soot and salt in connection with compost—one quart of salt to six quarts of soot—is an excellent fertilizer for asparagus, onions, cabbage, etc. Two bushels of compost make a heavy dressing for each square rod of ground, to be worked into the

surface of the soil.—*Gardening Illustrated.*

Salt Growing Cabbage.—A New Jersey gardener considers salt necessary to the development of cabbage, especially in places far from the coast. He finds them more crisp, of better flavor, and to keep better when salt is used than when it is not. He used it as follows: "A few days after setting out the plants, and when they are damp, either after a rain or when the dew is on, I take a small dish of fine salt and walking among the rows, sprinkle a little salt on the center of each plant when the leaves begin to show. I repeat the salting, and when the center of the leaves begin to form the head I apply salt again, scattering it over the leaves; after this I look them over occasionally, and if I find plants that do not head well, I add more freely; this will save all such plants. A quart of salt is sufficient for five hundred plants in a season, although more can safely be used."

Allow Chickens in Gardens.—By chickens we do not mean fowls generally, but the newly hatched broods, which will flourish famously if allowed the range of your flower and vegetable beds. Let the mother hens in roosting coops near the garden walks; see that they are shaded by trees or shrubs, both protection from the noonday heat and from the possible invasion of hawks, who are fearless if the ground is entirely exposed to view, but who are shy of the swaying limbs and fluttering leaves of trees. The chickens, eagerly searching for worms and insects, are within the mother's call, and can easily hide, at a warning note, among the leaves and grass. The exercise, the fresh air, and the sturdy independence gained at an early age in this way, are as healthful and growth-promoting as is the natural food which they gather for themselves; and this added to the ration furnished by the owner of the flock, they will astonish you by their rapid and healthful development. The first six weeks of a chicken's life will settle the question early or late maturity more effectively than any after care and pampering can possibly do. Give the young ones a good start, and half the battle of life is already won.—*American Coultry Yard.*

Double Cropping.—The practice of double cropping is not much favored by farmers, but cases are not unfrequently reported which show it to be very profitable. For dairymen and stock-breeders there is perhaps no way of raising the best quality of stock so economically as by combining two or three crops in one. Mr. Joseph Harris was very successful a few years ago in raising a combined crop of peas and oats in which the joint product, if our memory is correct, was at the rate of eighty bushels per acre, which was certainly a better result, and so considered by himself, than either crop alone. It is sometimes found still better to increase the number of kinds combined in the same crop. A Western New York farmer has reported the results of an unusual experiment of a quadruple crop, which he found to be exceedingly profitable. He planted oats, peas, barley and wheat, and result was nearly ninety bushels per acre. Now it must be remembered that each of these grains is a valuable feed for a bee-keeping, and that when combined the separate value of each is still further increased. This is fairly entitled to be considered a model crop and stockman cannot do better than to try it on their own farms.—*Station Record.*

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To Sweeten Hard Butter.—Put fifteen drops of chloride of lime to a pint of cold water, and work the butter in until every particle has come in contact with the water; then work it over in pure cold water.

SOPHENING THE HAIR.—To soften the hair, beat the yolk of one egg into a pint of rain water; rub the scalp and the hair with this; then rinse the hair thoroughly and dry with a towel. Use very little oil if the hair becomes too dry.

NAIL IN THE FOOT.—As soon as the nail is extracted apply bruised peach leaves to the wound. Confine with a bandage, and the cure is as if by magic. Repeat the salting, and when the center of the leaves begin to form the head I apply salt again, scattering it over the leaves; after this I look them over occasionally, and if I find plants that do not head well, I add more freely; this will save all such plants. A quart of salt is sufficient for five hundred plants in a season, although more can safely be used."

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